

How to Create a FIRMette Map

1. Go to <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>. It should look like the picture below.

The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) homepage. At the top is the FEMA logo and navigation links: About, Contact Us, FAQs, and Languages. Below the header is a search bar. The main content area features six columns of links: Plan, Prepare & Mitigate; Disaster Survivor Assistance; Response & Recovery; Topics & Audiences; Blog, Newsroom, Videos & Photos; and About FEMA. A large banner for the Flood Map Service Center is displayed, with a map showing flood zones and roads like RUTLAND RD and MARTIN AVE. Below the banner are links for MSC Home, MSC Search, MSC Products and Tools, MSC How-To, and MSC Email Subscriptions. A section titled 'Looking for a Flood Map?' includes a search input field with a green arrow pointing to it, a 'Search' button, and a link to 'Search All Products'. To the right, there is a section titled 'About Flood Map Service Center' with a brief description of the MSC's role.

2. Enter an address associated with your project so that you may more easily locate your project area.

This is a close-up of the search input field on the FEMA Flood Map Service Center homepage. The text 'Looking for a Flood Map?' is visible at the top. Below it, the input field contains the text '856 main st, kinston, al'. A green arrow points to the input field. To the right of the input field is a 'Search' button. Below the input field is a link to 'Search All Products'.

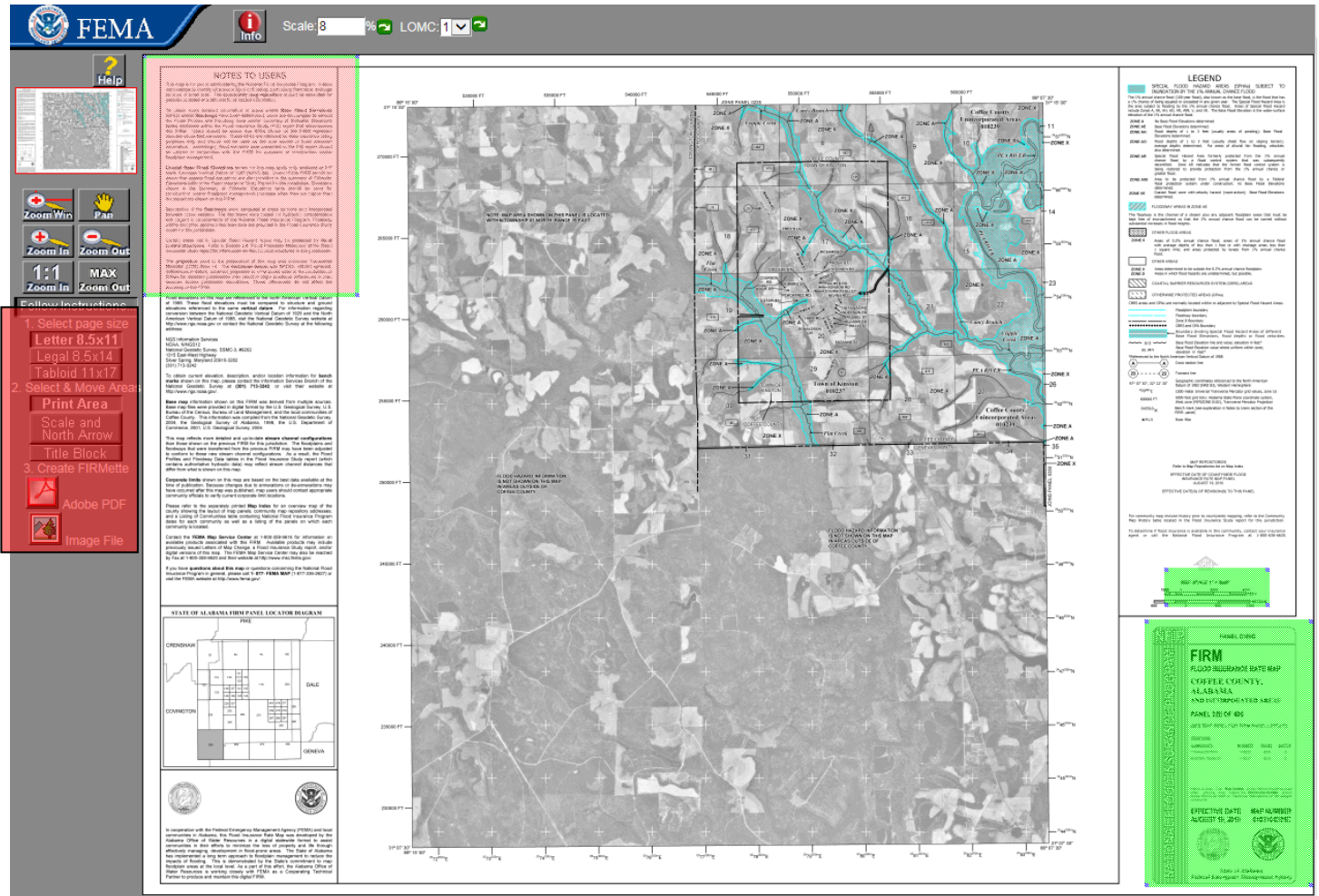
This should be the result.

The screenshot shows the Flood Map Service Center (MSC) website. The header includes navigation links: MSC Home, MSC Search, MSC Products and Tools, MSC How-To, and MSC Email Subscriptions. The main content area is titled "Search by Address" and shows the search results for "856 main st, kinston, al". The results indicate that the selected location is in Coffee County, AL, and the flood map for the area is number 01031C0325C, effective on 08/19/2010. A green arrow points to the "VIEW" button. Below the search results, there are links to "Letters of Map Change" (Revisions, Amendments, Revalidations) and a link to "Get additional products for COFFEE COUNTY". The map itself shows the selected flood map boundary (highlighted in red) and the printed flood map boundary (highlighted in blue). The map also shows the non-printed flood map boundary (highlighted in green) and the unmapped area (highlighted in yellow). The map is powered by Esri, HERE, DeLorme, iPC.

3. Click the “View” button as shown above. A new window should pop up and this should be the result.

The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (FIRM) viewer. The header includes the FEMA logo, a scale bar (Scale: 4%), and a LOMC dropdown menu (LOMC: 1). The main content area displays a detailed flood map of Coffee County, AL, with a yellow highlighted area. The map includes a legend, a scale bar, and a "FIRM" label. A green arrow points to the "Make a FIRMette" button.

4. Use the “Zoom” tools, highlighted in red in the previous picture, to locate your project (this takes time, project area highlighted in yellow). Once you’ve located your project area, click on “Make a FIRMette”. This should be the result.



The “creator” tools are highlighted in red. They are used to create the “map”. Three steps are used to create the map.

1. Select your paper size. 8.5”x11” is the default. So you shouldn’t have to do anything unless you change paper size.
2. Select and move areas. The three highlighted areas (1 pink, 2 green) are the areas that will appear on your map once it’s been created. The buttons under number the “Select & Move Areas” section (green arrow) switch between the different areas. The area has to be selected in order to be moved. The “Print Area” is selected by default. Left click and hold the box and move it into place over your project area. Below should be the result.

5. Save your FIRMette to your computer by clicking the "Save your FIRMette" button (green arrow above). A .pdf of your map will be saved to the location you indicated. At this point all that is left is for you to "flag" your project area by labeling it on the map (be sure to show the limits of the project if it is not a single address (i.e. waterline replacement, road paving, etc...)). Do the best you can with the skills you have. Below is only an example of what CAN be done, NOT what HAS to be done.

